AI

09/719978 525 Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 DEC 2000

PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Steven BALL

Serial No. (unknown)

Filed herewith

METHOD FOR OBTAINING MODIFIED POLYSACCHARIDES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 4, lines 1 and 2, change "any one of the preceding claims" to --claim 1--.

Claim 5, Tines 1 and 2, change "any one of the preceding claims" to --claim 1--.

Claim 6, lines 8 and 9, change "any one of the preceding claims" to --claim 1---

Claim 15, line 2, cancel "or 14".

Add the following new claim:

--18. Claming and/or expression vector comprising a nucleotide sequence as defined in claim 14.--

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

Ву

Benoît Castel Attorney for Applicant Registration No. 35,041 745 South 23rd Street Arlington, VA 22202

Telephone: 703/521-2297

December 18, 2000